



BJA254A

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to obviate the rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-20 under 35 USC 112 and 35 USC 103(a). In particular, and in accordance with the agreement reached between myself and Examiner Dees in the interview with Examiner Dees of 28 May 2003, the word "intact" has been removed to overcome the 112 rejection and the limitations of claim 4 (now canceled) have been incorporated into claim 1. In that interview, Examiner Dees agreed that Schaefer does not teach that the swelling composition opens the hair follicles, and thus the amendment should render the claim non-obvious in view of the prior art. Thus, the amendment of claim 1 should be sufficient to overcome Examiner's rejections and render claims 1-2 and 5-20 allowable. Claims 2 and 5-20 have also been amended to correct minor grammatical errors.

With these changes and remarks it is believed that the disclosure is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. An early and favorable response is earnestly solicited. If necessary, a telephone call would be appreciated to discuss any further final changes to be made to render the claims allowable. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

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